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To: U.S.P.T.O. EXAMINER SHAFFERFax #: 571-273-8300Company: ART UNIT 3733From: MICHAEL BECKDate: Nov. 21, 2005Number of Pages: 9 (including cover sheet)MESSAGE: RESPONSE TO RESTRICTIONS.N. 10/624,066

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1842-0018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Johnson et al.) Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer
Application No.: 10/624,066) Art Unit: 3733
Filed: July 21, 2003) Confirmation No. 5163
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE) November 21, 2005

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

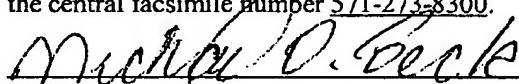
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendment and arguments in response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2005. This response is being filed within the initial one-month period which expires on November 28, 2005. Thus, it is believed that no extensions of time of associated fees are due; however, in the event that an extension is required, the Commissioner is requested to provide such extension and is authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 23, 2005 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300.



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